

### Ethnicity and the Path through the Child Welfare System

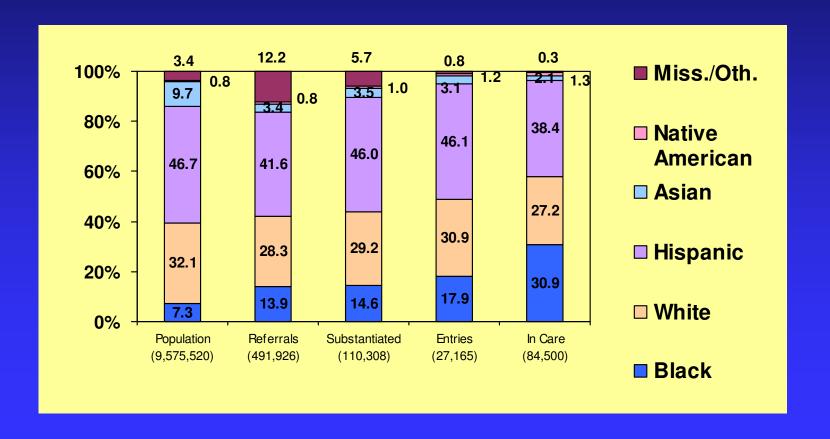
Barbara Needell, MSW, PhD Center for Social Services Research University of California at Berkeley

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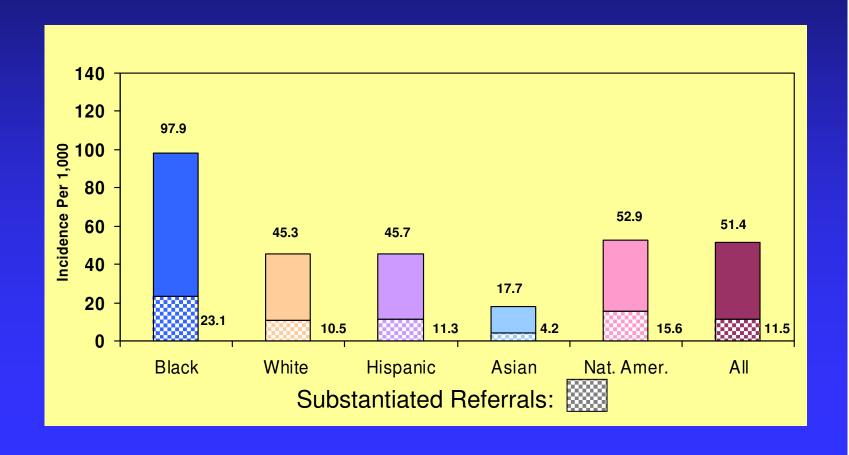


## California: Ethnicity and the Path through the Child Welfare System





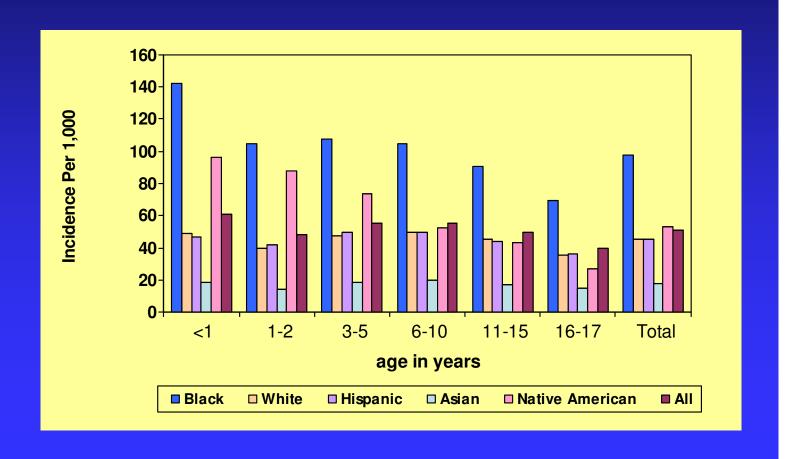
# California: Referrals per 1,000 Children by Ethnicity







## California: Referrals per 1,000 Children by Age and Ethnicity



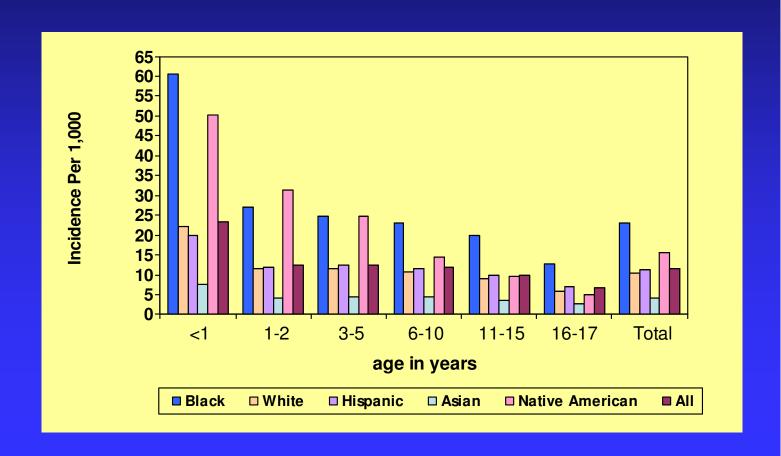




#### 2004

#### California:

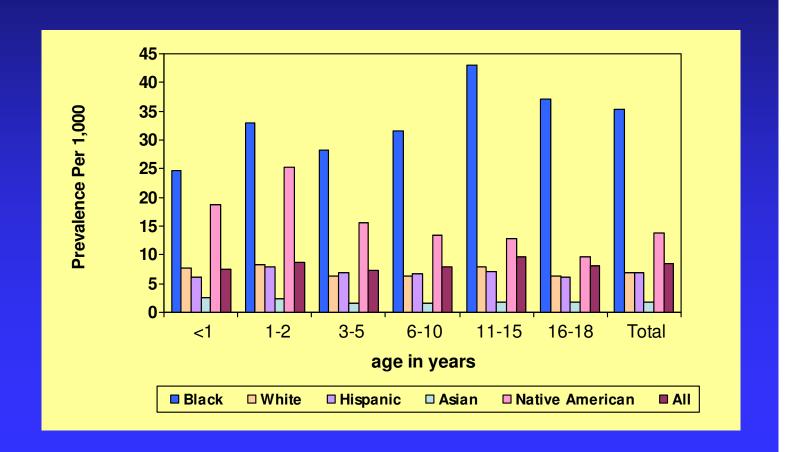
### Substantiated Referrals per 1,000 Children by Age and Ethnicity





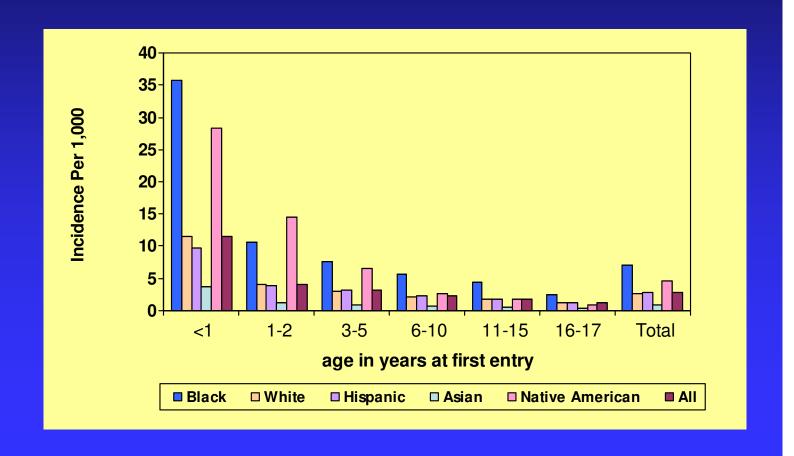
July 1, 2004

## California: Children in Care per 1,000 Children by Age and Ethnicity





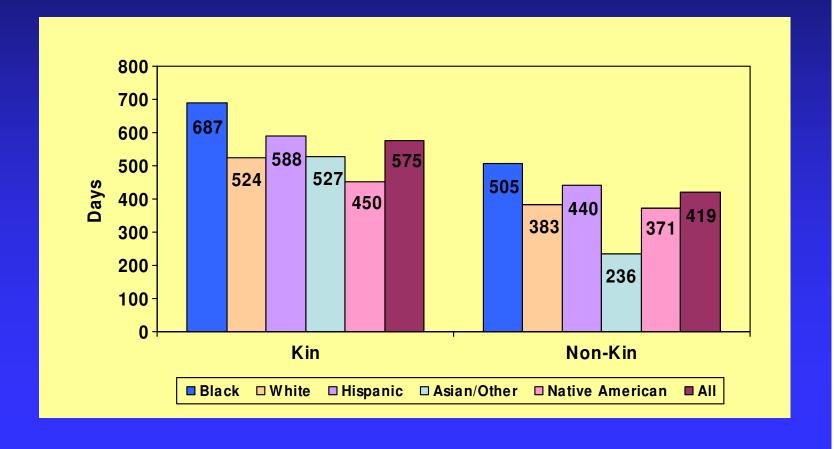
## California: First Entries per 1,000 Children by Age and Ethnicity





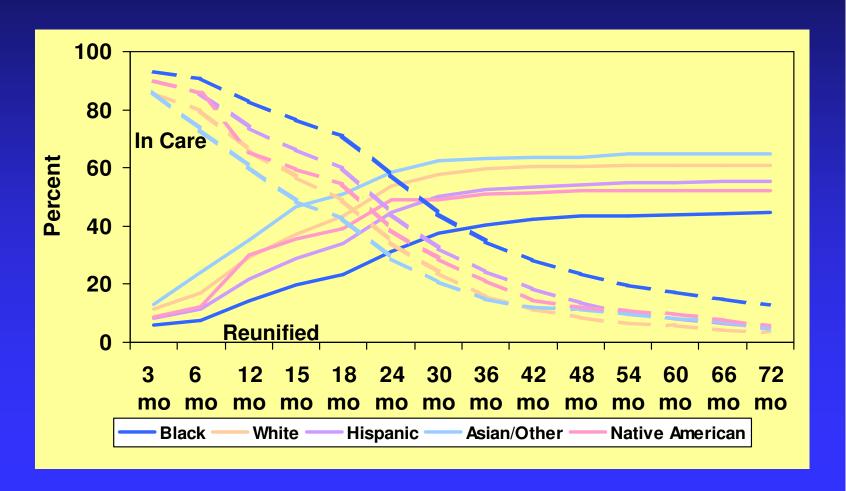


### California 2000-2002 Entries: Median Length of Stay (Days) in First Foster Care Episode



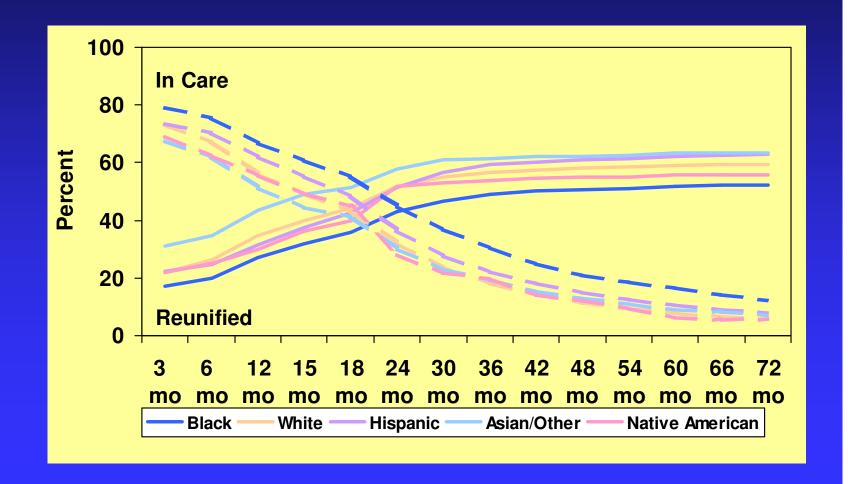


#### California 1998 Exits Over Time Reunified and Still in Care: Kin



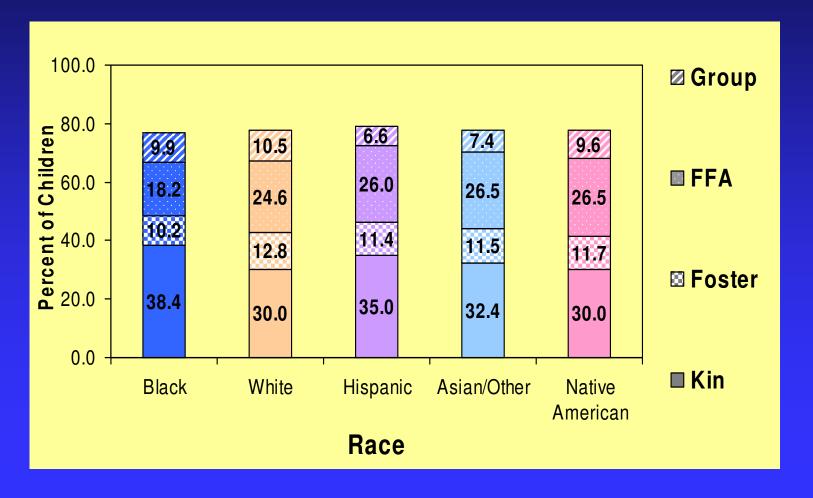


#### California 1998 Exits Over Time Reunified and Still in Care: Non-Kin



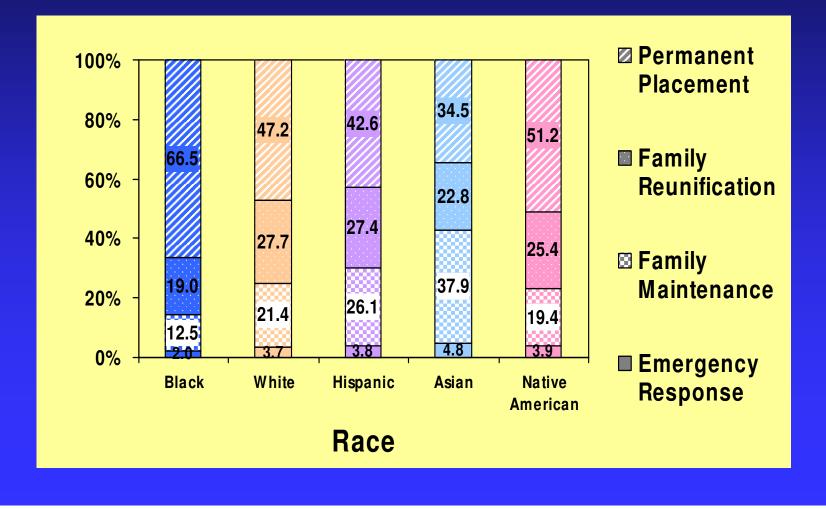


### California April 1, 2005 Foster Care Caseload by Placement Type





## California January 1, 2005: Case Service Components





#### Summary

- Black children are referred for maltreatment proportionally more than any other group.
   Black children make up 7.3% of the total child population, but account for 13.9% of referrals.
- Once referred, children are equally likely to have a substantiation, even after disproportionate referrals.
   Across racial groups approximately 23-30% of children who are referred are substantiated.
- Black children with open cases are the least likely to be served at home and the most likely to be in long term foster care. Only 12.5% of the Black children with open cases are in the Family Maintenance Program, compared to 21.4% of White Children, and 26.1% of Hispanic children.



#### Summary, continued

- Black children are the most likely to enter foster care. Black children enter care at a rate of 7 per 1,000--compared to 2.7 per 1,000 for White children, and 2.8 per 1,000 for Hispanic Children.
- Black children are the most likely to be in foster care. The rate of Black children in foster care is 35.4 per 1,000--compared to 7 per 1,000 for White children, and 6.9 per 1,000 for Hispanic Children.
- Black children are the least likely to be reunified. After 6 years, 44.7% of Black children with kin and 52.3% of those with non-kin were reunified. For White children, 61% with kin and 59.4% with non-kin were reunified, for Hispanic children, 55.3% with kin and 62.8% with non-kin were reunified.



#### Summary, continued

• Black children stay in care longer than children from other racial groups. For children in kin care the length of stay is 687 days for Black children, 524 days for White children, and 588 days for Hispanic children. Among children in non-kin care the length of stay is 505 days for Black children, 383 days for White children, and 440 days for Hispanic children.



## Websites for data on ethnicity and the child welfare system

Percentage of children aged 0-17 in each ethnic group in the total population (Slide 2).
 Select age criteria, year, and county. Divide total count for each ethnicity by total population.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/population/

 Percentage of referrals & substantiated referrals for each ethnic group (Slide 2). Select time period and county in the Age/Ethnicity table. Divide total count of referrals for each ethnicity by total referrals. Divide total count of substantiated referrals for each ethnicity by total substantiated referrals.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Referrals/rates.asp#ageethrates

• Percentage of first entries for each ethnic group (Slide 2). Select time period and county in the Age/Ethnicity table. Divide total count of first entries for each ethnicity by total first entries.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/firstentries/Rates.asp

• Percentage of caseload in child welfare supervised foster care by ethnic group, July 1, 2004 (Slide 2). Select county in the Age/Ethnicity table. Divide total count of children in care for each ethnicity by total number of children in care.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/cwscmsreports/Pointintime/fostercare/childwel/prevalence.asg



### Websites for data on ethnicity and the child welfare system, continued

Peferral and substantiated referral rates per 1,000 children by ethnicity (Slide 3). Select year and county in the Age/Ethnicity table. For each ethnic group, subtract substantiated referrals from referrals and enter this number as total referrals in the table. Change the visible on the graph to reflect the true number of total referrals.

http://cssr.berkelev.edu/CWSCMSreports/referrals/rates.asp

 Referral rates per 1,000 children by age & ethnicity (Slide 4). Select year and county from the Age/Ethnicity table.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/referrals/rates.asp

• Substantiated referral rates per 1,000 children by age & ethnicity (Slide 5). Select year and county from the Age/Ethnicity table.

<u> http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/referrals/rates.asp</u>

• In care rates per 1,000 children by age & ethnicity (Slide 6). Select county from the Age/Ethnicity table.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Pointintime/fostercare/childwel/prevalence.asp

• First entries rates per 1,000 children by age & ethnicity (Slide 7). Select entry year and county from the Age/Ethnicity table.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/firstentries/rates.asp



### Websites for data on ethnicity and the child welfare system, continued

- Median Length of Stay (Days) in First Foster Care Episode, by ethnicity, for 2000-2002 entries (Slide 8). Select by ethnicity 2000-2002 and estimates.
   <a href="http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/stay/">http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/stay/</a>
- Exits over time by placement type and ethnicity, kin & non-kin (Slides 9 & 10). Select ethnicity, entry year (Jan-Dec 1998), and county.
   http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Cohorts/exits/
- Foster care caseload by placement type, April 1, 2005 (Slide 11). Select point-in-time, by ethnicity, and county.
   http://cssr.berkelev.edu/cwscmsreports/Pointintime/fostercare/childwel/ageandethnic.asp
- Case service components, January 1, 2005 (Slide 12). Select ethnicity, point-in-time, and county:

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/Pointintime/services/





cssr.berkeley.edu/cwscmsreports